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FLEIT, KAIN, GIBBONS, GUTMAN, BONGINI
& BIANCO P.L.
ONE BOCA COMMERCE CENTER
551 NORTHWEST 77TH STREET, SUITE 111
BOCA RATON, FL 33487

EXAMINER

SHERKAT, AREZOO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2131

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/526,622

Applicant(s)

HOHENSEE ET AL.

Examiner

Arezoo Sherkat

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 17-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 17-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-6 and 17-22 are presented for examination.

Drawings

The drawings were received on 4/5/2004. These drawings are acceptable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

1. Claims 1-10, 15-18, and 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bahar, (U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0019852 and Bahar hereinafter).

Regarding claim 1, Bahar discloses a system to notify remote output by an authenticated recipient to a designated party comprising:

an interface to a receiver (i.e., a recipient computer system) for receiving a file (i.e., email file) with authentication data (i.e., recipient's email address which is inherently included in the email file) from a remote system (i.e., sender computer system)(page 3, Par. 0024);

an input for receiving identification information (i.e., password or confidential code entry) from an authenticated recipient (i.e., a user with a user account)(Page 4, Par 0026);

a comparator for comparing if said identification information (i.e., the email address corresponding to identification information such as password, confidential access code, or other alternative means of identity verification presented upon access) from said authenticated recipient (i.e., a user with a user account) is matched to at least part of said authentication data in said file (i.e., the target party's email address in the email file ... in an email processing system, it is inherent to compare the logon information provided by the accessing party at the time of logging into his/her user account against the identification information corresponding to his/her user account recorded in the accessing party's computer registry to ensure security in ascertaining the identity of the accessing party)(Page 4, Par. 0029 and Page 7, Par. 0041);

an interface to an output for sending said file to an output device (i.e., opening the email file and viewing it by the accessing party) if said identification data from said authenticated recipient (i.e., the email address corresponding to his/her identification

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information recorded in the accessing party's computer registry which is inherent in an email processing system) is matched to at least part of said authentication data in said file (i.e., the target party's email address in the email file ... in an email processing system, it is inherent to compare the logon information provided by the accessing party at the time of logging into his/her user account against the identification information corresponding to his/her user account recorded in the accessing party's computer registry to ensure security in ascertaining the identity of the accessing party)(Page 4, Par. 0029 and Page 7, Par. 0041); and

an interface to transmitter for sending a notification of the output of said file to said output device (i.e., confirmation of receipt of the email file by the accessing party) to at least one designated party (i.e., sender computer system) if said identification data from said authenticated recipient (i.e., the email address corresponding to his/her identification information recorded in the accessing party's computer registry which is inherent in an email processing system) is matched to at least part of said authentication data in said file (i.e., the target party's email address in the email file ... in an email processing system, it is inherent to compare the logon information provided by the accessing party at the time of logging into his/her user account against the identification information corresponding to his/her user account recorded in the accessing party's computer registry to ensure security in ascertaining the identity of the accessing party)(Page 4, Par. 0029 and Page 7, Par. 0041).

Regarding claim 2, Bahar discloses wherein said designated party is a party that sends said file (i.e., email file) on remote system (Page 1, Par. 0002).

Regarding claim 3, Bahar discloses wherein said file (i.e., email file) further comprises data indicating at least one designated party (i.e., the sending party's email address)(Page 2, Par. 0012).

Regarding claim 4, Bahar discloses wherein said interface to transmitter (i.e., recipient computer) includes means for sending notification of the output of said file to said output device (i.e., confirmation of receipt of the email file) to one designated party (i.e., sender computer system) in said data (i.e., sender's email address) in said file (i.e., email file)(Page 2, Par. 0012 and Page 2, Par. 0014).

Regarding claims 5 and 6, Bahar discloses wherein said notification (i.e., confirmation of receipt) includes a location (i.e., access location), date, and time (i.e., date and time of the access event) said file (i.e., email file) is sent to said output device (i.e., opened or displayed in the recipient computer system)(Page 7, Par. 0043).

Regarding claim 7, Bahar discloses a document retrieval system for accessing a printed document and transmitting back, the identifying data of a party accessing or making a copy of a document comprising:

means for transmitting (i.e., fifth executable software means) a document in data form (i.e., confirmation of receipt notice) to a means for receiving (i.e., sending computer) said document in data form (i.e., confirmation of receipt notice)(Page 2, Par. 0014);

means for receiving identifying data (i.e., discovering recipient's data which is associated with recipient's email address) and transmitting said identifying data to said means for receiving said document in data form (i.e., generating a confirmation of receipt notice containing the discovered recipient data and transmitting it to a return email address associated with sending party)(Page 2, Par. 0014); and

said means for receiving said document in data form (i.e., receiving computer) including means for printing said document (i.e., displaying email to the screen by double clicking or clicking on the email file) directly in response to said identifying data (i.e., after authenticating the recipient data with pre-recorded registered recipient info resident in the second computer)(Page 2, Par. 0014).

Regarding claim 8, Bahar discloses wherein said means for receiving (i.e., first executable software means for detecting a designated access event which is triggered by an accessing party and is generally associated with email retrieval from recipient email address) said document in data form includes means for sending to said means for transmitting a document in data form, said identifying data (i.e., receiving computer sending confirmation of receipt notice to a return email address associated with the sending party)(Page 2, Par. 0012 and Page 2, Par. 0014).

Regarding claim 9, Bahar discloses wherein said identifying data (i.e., log in and password) is in a predetermined format (i.e., pre-recorded registered recipient information), and said means for printing (i.e., viewing/displaying the email file) is directly responsive to said identifying data in said predetermined format (Page 2, Par. 0014 and Page 6, Par. 0038).

Regarding claim 10, Bahar discloses wherein said means for receiving (i.e., receiving computer) said document in data form (i.e., email file), includes a storage device (i.e., hard disk drive) for storing said document and said document is accessed from said storage device in response to said identifying data (i.e., logging into a user account with a password or a confidential access code)(Page4, Par. 0028 and Par. 0029).

Regarding claims 15 and 16, Bahar discloses wherein said identifying data (i.e., confirmation of receipt notice) includes time and place of access data (Page 7, Par. 0043).

Regarding claim 17, Bahar discloses a method for retrieving a document and for transmitting back, the identifying data of a party accessing or making a copy of a document transmitted through a two way telecommunications system, comprising the steps of:

transmitting a document from a systems device (i.e., first computer/sending computer) through a two way telecommunications system (i.e., communication network) to a presentation device (i.e., second computer/ receiving computer)(Page 2, Par. 0012);

storing said document in said presentation device (i.e., receiving computer system has means for storably receiving email files on data storage means)(Page 4, Par. 0028);

as a first step in accessing a copy of said document, inputting at said presentation device (i.e., recipient computer), identifying data (i.e., user log in and password) indicative of the identification of a party accessing the document (Page 4, Par. 0029);

as a second step in accessing a copy of said document, and directly responsive to said identifying data (i.e., discovering recipient data which is associated with recipient's email address)(Page 2, Par. 0014), producing a print command (i.e., the access event can occur upon opening the delivered email file subsequent to logging into the user account)(Page 6, Par. 0029);

as a third step, producing a copy of said document (i.e., opening and/or viewing email file)(Page 2, Par. 0014), in direct response to said print command, and

as a fourth step, producing a record of said the identifying data used to produce said print command (i.e., triggering a designated access event and generating a confirmation of receipt notice containing the discovered recipient data)(Page 2, Par.

0012), and transmitting said record (i.e., electronically transmitting the confirmation of receipt notice)(Page 2, Par. 0012).

Regarding claim 18, Bahar discloses wherein said identifying data is in a predetermined format (i.e., user's identity information would have to be pre-programmed into the user terminal and directly associated with the user's personal security code)(Page 7, Par. 0042) and said step of producing said print command includes the step of producing said print command in direct response to receiving said data in said predetermined format (i.e., discovery of user information would work to positively identify the user of the terminal and trigger the access event)(Page 7, Par. 0042).

Regarding claim 20, Bahar discloses wherein said steps of producing a record and a transmitting said record includes the step of producing and transmitting a record of said identifying data (i.e., the steps resulting in transmitting the confirmation of receipt notice to a return email address associated with the sending party)(Page 2, Par 0012) with time of accessing data (i.e., confirmation of receipt notice includes information such as access location, phone number of access location, time, and date of access event)(Page 7, Par. 0043).

Regarding claim 21, Bahar discloses wherein said steps of producing a record (i.e., confirmation of receipt notice) and a transmitting said record includes the step of

producing and transmitting a record of said identifying data with place of access data, to said first system (Page 2, Par. 0012 and Page 7, Par. 0043).

Regarding claim 22, Bahar discloses a computer readable media comprising programming instructions performing the method of retrieving a document and for transmitting back, the identifying data of a party accessing or making a copy of a document transmitted through a two-way telecommunications system comprising the programming instructions of:

transmitting a document from a system (i.e., first computer/sending computer) through a two-way telecommunications system (i.e., communication network) to a presentation device (i.e., second computer/ receiving computer)(Page 2, Par. 0012 and Page 3, Par. 0022);

storing said document in said presentation device (i.e., receiving computer system has means for storably receiving email files on data storage means)(Page 4, Par. 0028);

as a first step in accessing a copy of said document, inputting at said presentation device (i.e., recipient computer), identifying data (i.e., user log in and password) indicative of the identification of a party accessing the document (Page 4., Par. 0029);

as a second step in accessing a copy of said document, and directly responsive to said identifying data (i.e., discovering recipient data which is associated with

recipient's email address)(Page 2, Par. 0014), producing a print command (i.e., double-clicking the email file to view it)(Page 6, Par. 0029);

as a third step, producing a copy of said document (i.e., opening and/or viewing email file)(Page 2, Par. 0014), in direct response to said print command, and

as a fourth step, producing a record of said the identifying data used to produce said print command (i.e., triggering a designated access event and generating a confirmation of receipt notice containing the discovered recipient data)(Page 2, Par. 0012), and transmitting said record (i.e., electronically transmitting the confirmation of receipt notice)(Page 2, Par. 0012).

Regarding claim 23, Bahar discloses a computer program comprising programming instructions for the operation of a document retrieval system for accessing a printed document and transmitting back, the identifying data of a party accessing or making a copy of a document transmitted through a two way telecommunications system, comprising the programming instructions of:

transmitting a document in data form through said two way telecommunications system (i.e., electronically transmitting the confirmation of receipt notice) to a means for receiving said document in data form (i.e., to a return email address associated with the sending party)(Page 2, Par. 0012 and Page 2, Par. 0014); and

receiving identifying data (i.e., logging the user in after evaluating his/her password or confidential access code) and printing said document directly in response to said identifying data (i.e., opening the delivered email file)(Page 4, Par. 0029).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bahar, (U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0019852 and Bahar hereinafter) in view of DiGiorgio et al., (U.S. Patent No.: 6,418,420 and DiGiorgio hereinafter).

The teachings of Bahar are discussed above.

Regarding claims 12-14, Bahar does not disclose a portable device for storing said identifying data wherein said portable device is a smart card or a Java Ring.

However, DiGiorgio discloses a portable device for storing said identifying data wherein said portable device is a smart card or a Java Ring (i.e., a smart card, an integrated circuit card with magnetic strip that holds identification information or the Java Ring that includes a steel cylindrical housing and houses an integrated circuit that contains a microprocessor and a storage and also a ring portion that enable the user the whole device like an ordinary ring)(Col. 7, lines 17-19)(Col.7, lines 34-39)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Bahar with the teachings of DiGiorgio to include a portable device for storing and identifying data wherein said

portable device is a smart card or a Java Ring with the motivation to provide a portable device in a size, shape, and weight that is easily carried by the user and securely holds identification information used to confirm that a party is who the party purports to be (DiGiorgio, Col. 1, lines 53-62).

3. Claims 11 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bahar, (U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0019852 and Bahar hereinafter) and DiGiorgio et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,418,420 and DiGiorgio hereinafter) in view of Bell, (U.S. Patent No. 6,600,902 and Bell hereinafter).

The teachings of Bahar and DiGiorgio are discussed above.

Regarding claims 11 and 19, Bahar and DiGiorgio does not expressly disclose wherein said identifying data is in a pre-determined Vcard format.

However, Bell discloses wherein said identifying data is in a pre-determined (i.e., standard)(Col. 9, line 61) Vcard format (i.e., a data object to be conveyed send, receive, transmit, or swap virtual business cards that may include a name, telephone and fax numbers, email address, and other type of information among multiple wireless stations by users involved in a business meeting or the like)(Col. 5, lines 18-30)(Col. 2, lines 47-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the combined teachings of Bahar and DiGiorgio with the teachings of Bell to represent said identifying data in a pre-

determined Vcard format with the motivation to provide for less tedious and repetitious entering of personal identification codes for individual links (Bell, Col. 3, lines 12-17).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on March 26th, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' Argument:

Regarding claim 1, the Applicants claim that "Bahar's reference does not disclose the reception of a file with authentication data, the reception of identification information from a recipient and, specifically, the comparison of the two received items in order to determine whether a match exists between the two items, as described in the independent claim 1 of the Applicants' invention. Further, the Bahar's reference does not disclose the sending of the file for output if the match occurs and the sending of the notification that the file was sent ...".

Examiner's Argument:

Regarding claim 1, Bahar's reference discloses the reception of an email file, which is directed to the recipient, and it inherently has the identification information of the recipient. It is inherent that a received file (i.e., email file) having authentication data is compared against the received identification information from the recipient (i.e., user id and password at log in) if a match occurs then the recipient can open the email file to

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the screen and a confirmation of the receipt of the email file is sent to the sender of the file (Bahar, Pages 10-12).

Applicants' Argument:

Regarding claims 17 and 22, the Applicants' claim that "the Bahar reference does not disclose the reception of a file, the reception of identification information from a recipient, producing a copy of the file, and specifically, the production and transmission of record memorializing the identification information of the file that was copied, as described in independent claims 17 and 22 ...".

Examiner's Argument:

Regarding claims 17 and 22, Bahar's reference discloses the reception of a file (i.e., email file), the reception of identification information from a recipient (i.e., user id and password at log in), producing a copy of the file, and specifically, the production and transmission of a record memorializing the identification information of the file that was copied (i.e., upon accessing the email file, the system generates a confirmation of receipt notice including but not limited to, time and date of access, physical address, telephone number of access location, identity of the target party, and etc.)(Bahar, Pages 10-12).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arezoo Sherkat whose telephone number is (703) 305-8749. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (703) 305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Arezoo Sherkat
Patent Examiner
Group 2131
June 16, 2004



AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100